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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

## Freshman Rhetoric Calendar for 1945-1946

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### OBJECTIVES

Freshman Rhetoric is designed to help you develop for use in college and afterward, the ability (a) to understand and evaluate what you hear and read, and (b) to speak and write intelligibly, effectively, and convincingly.

### PROFICIENCY EXAMINATIONS

At the beginning of each semester, a proficiency examination in Freshman Rhetoric will be offered by the English Department. Students who fail the Rhetoric 1 proficiency examination will be denied admission to Rhetoric 1 and may prepare to pass the test at a later date (1) by enrolling in Rhetoric 0, a one-semester, non-credit remedial course, (2) by tutoring, or (3) by independent study and practice in writing. Students who do exceptionally well on the proficiency examination will be granted exemption from Rhetoric 1 with three hours of credit. Likewise, students will be released from Rhetoric 2 with three hours of credit by passing a Rhetoric 2 examination. Students who prepare for these examinations should note that the proficiency examinations in Rhetoric 1 and 2 will be equivalent to those given at the end of the semester in the respective courses. According to a University ruling, a proficiency examination may not be taken to remove a failure in a course.

### RHETORIC 0 OBJECTIVES

Rhetoric 0 is planned to prepare you for admission to Rhetoric 1. In it you will study assignments designed to give you a working knowledge of grammar, correct sentence and paragraph construction, and punctuation. You will also be encouraged to enlarge your vocabulary and to improve your spelling. You will write many short compositions, which will be analyzed by your instructor and which you will revise and correct. You will analyze the writing of others and thereby develop powers of criticism and an awareness of standards which will help you improve your own writing.

You should bear in mind that Rhetoric 0 is not a required course. It is offered by the University to those willing to work to overcome their writing handicaps. By applying yourself you should be able to pass Rhetoric 0 and thus gain admission to Rhetoric 1. If you are negligent in doing the assigned work, you will be advised to withdraw from Rhetoric 0 and will thus lose the assistance the University has offered you. Instead of gaining admission to Rhetoric 1 by passing Rhetoric 0, you may attempt to do so by passing a proficiency test offered at the beginning of the next semester. If, by the beginning of your *third* semester, you have not gained admission to Rhetoric 1, you will be obliged to withdraw from the University.

### RHETORIC 0 TEXTBOOKS

CPW — *Correctness and Precision in Writing* by Grant, Bracher, and Duff. Houghton Mifflin Co. 1945.

SPM — *Student Prose Models* by Roberts and Trelease. Farrar and Rinehart. 1940.

### RHETORIC 0 CALENDAR

All assignments here made are subject to change by individual instructors. You are advised to give careful attention to and make written note of assignment instructions given in the classroom.

#### First Week

Oct. 10: Announcement of texts and assignments. Your instructor will discuss the principles of paragraph construction.

Oct. 12: Be prepared to discuss the paragraphing of "Athletes" and "Syncopators": SPM pp. 6-8, 218-220.

#### Second Week

Oct. 15: Theme 1, a single, well-developed paragraph composed outside of class. Be prepared to read your paper aloud during the class meeting.

Oct. 17: Spelling: CPW pp. 9, 13-16.

- Oct. 19: Possessives: CPW pp. 17, 19.  
Capitalization: CPW pp. 18, 20.  
Theme 2, an impromptu paragraph. Bring standard theme paper to class for this composition.

### Third Week

- Oct. 22: Words often confused: CPW pp. 21-23.  
Theme 3, three related paragraphs.
- Oct. 24: Be prepared to spell correctly the first fifty words: CPW p. 10.  
Theme 4, an impromptu, three or more related paragraphs.
- Oct. 26: Subject and predicate: CPW pp. 25-34. Your instructor will here, and henceforth, make specific assignments in the exercises.

### Fourth Week

- Oct. 29: Joining independent clauses: CPW pp. 35-40.
- Oct. 31: Dependent clauses: CPW pp. 41-46. Read "The Table Groans No More": SPM pp. 86-89 and note the dependent clauses.
- Nov. 2: Theme 5, and selections in SPM, as assigned by your instructor.

### Fifth Week

- Nov. 5: Review of clauses: CPW pp. 47-50. Be prepared to spell correctly the second fifty words: CPW p. 10.
- Nov. 7: The run-together sentence: CPW pp. 51-54.
- Nov. 9: The sentence fragment: CPW pp. 55-62.

### Sixth Week

- Nov. 12: Theme 6, an impromptu. In preparation, read "This Is Home," "Soup, Beautiful Soup!" and "Chemistry for Pleasure": SPM pp. 12-15, 18-21.
- Nov. 14: Phrases: CPW pp. 63-66. Read "A Consoling Crumb for Eve": SPM pp. 52-53, noting the use of phrases.
- Nov. 16: Punctuation: CPW pp. 69-71, and Commas to Separate Independent Clauses: CPW pp. 72-76.

### Seventh Week

- Nov. 19: Theme 7. Commas to separate elements in series: CPW pp. 77-82.
- Nov. 21: Commas to set off non-restrictive modifiers: CPW pp. 83-90.

### Eighth Week

- Nov. 26: See assignment for November 21.
- Nov. 28: Commas to set off parenthetical elements: CPW pp. 91-94 and special marks: CPW pp. 95-96.
- Nov. 30: General review of punctuation: CPW pp. 97-102.



**Ninth Week**

- Dec. 3: Theme 8, a test on punctuation.
- Dec. 5: Be prepared to discuss the paragraphing and organization of "On the Disadvantages of Being Two People" and "Pease Porridge Hot": SPM pp. 3-6.
- Dec. 7: Theme 9, an impromptu.

**Tenth Week**

- Dec. 10: Agreement of subject and verb: CPW pp. 103-110.
- Dec. 12: Agreement of pronoun and antecedent: CPW pp. 111-114, and case of pronouns: CPW pp. 115-118.
- Dec. 14: Theme 10, as assigned by your instructor. Be prepared to spell correctly the third fifty words: CPW p. 11.

**Eleventh Week**

- Dec. 17: Troublesome verbs: CPW pp. 119-126.
- Dec. 19: Confused parts of speech: CPW pp. 127-130, and general review of usage: CPW pp. 131-132.
- Jan. 4: Theme 11, impromptu. Before class, read "Entrepreneur of a Diaper Laundry": SPM pp. 66-70, and "How to Make Facial Masks": SPM pp. 72-75.

**Twelfth Week**

- Jan. 7: Reference of pronouns: CPW pp. 133-136. Be prepared to spell correctly the fourth fifty words: CPW p. 11.
- Jan. 9: Theme 12, on a subject suggested by "What's Wrong with the American High School": SPM pp. 152-159, and "Rationalism in Rhetoric Instruction": SPM pp. 160-163.
- Jan. 11: Dangling modifiers: CPW pp. 137-140, and misplaced modifiers: CPW pp. 141-144.

**Thirteenth Week**

- Jan. 14: Faulty parallelism: CPW pp. 145-148. Be prepared to spell correctly the fifth fifty words: CPW p. 12.
- Jan. 16: Shifts and split constructions: CPW pp. 149-152.  
(Last date on which late themes may be turned in.)
- Jan. 18: Theme 13, impromptu. Before class, read SPM pp. 202-208.

**Fourteenth Week**

- Jan. 21: Review of sentence structure: CPW pp. 153-158.
- Jan. 23: Improving sentences: CPW pp. 159-166.
- Jan. 25: Theme 14, as assigned by your instructor.

**Fifteenth Week**

- Jan. 28: Be prepared to spell correctly the sixth fifty words: CPW p. 12.
- Jan. 30: Discussion of the final examination. Review.

**RHETORIC 1 OBJECTIVES AND PLAN**

Rhetoric 1 is primarily concerned with the written and oral expression of ideas based on personal observation and experience. It is designed to develop in you the ability (1) to express easily, accurately, and effectively the ideas and problems that arise in your own experience, (2) to read with understanding and pleasure, (3) to listen to others and understand the purpose, direction, and detail of what they are saying, and (4) to speak effectively and without embarrassment. To achieve these objectives you will be asked to write an average of a theme a week and to read some of your compositions aloud to the class.

*Weeks 1- 3: Preparation.*

Examination of textbooks and dictionary.

Review of common errors.

Two themes and one test. These are diagnostic. On the basis of your work on them you may be advised to withdraw from Rhetoric 1 and to enroll in Rhetoric 0.

*Weeks 3- 7: Description and narration.*

Reading of models, with discussion of exactness of diction, vividness of detail, and other principles.

Two descriptive and three narrative themes, adapted from personal observation and experience — assignments intended to lead to effective use, throughout the course, of description and narration as aids to exposition.

A book review.

*Weeks 8-15: Observational exposition.*

Reading of models in exposition, with attention to means of making experiences and procedures clear and interesting.

Expository themes reporting experiences, processes, activities, etc. One long composition.

Two book reviews.

Concurrent study of the structure of paragraphs and sentences, with a view to developing greater distinctness of plan, firmness of phrasing, and general fluency.

**RHETORIC 1 TEXTBOOKS**

UEC — *Unified English Composition* by Sanders, Jordan, Limpus, and Magoon. F. S. Crofts & Co. 1942.

RFC — *Readings for Composition* by Davidson and Glenn. Scribners. 1942.

**RHETORIC 1 CALENDAR**

All assignments here made are subject to change by individual instructors. You are advised to give careful attention to and make written note of assignment instructions given in the classroom.

**First Week**

- Oct. 10: Announcement of texts and assignments. You will be asked to speak informally for one minute on a subject suggested by your instructor.
- Oct. 12: Be prepared to discuss Manual pp. 3-10 and UEC pp. 1-5, 9-11, and 130-132. Bring UEC, Manual, RFC, and a college-level dictionary to class for this discussion.

**Second Week**

- Oct. 15: Theme A, as assigned by your instructor. The composition is to be written outside of class. Be prepared to read it and all subsequent themes to the class.
- Oct. 17: "Grammar: Preview": UEC pp. 50-54 and "The Sentence": UEC pp. 190-194.
- Oct. 19: "Fragmentary and Run-together Sentences": UEC pp. 202-207 and "Agreement and Arrangement of Sentence Elements": UEC pp. 207-213.

**Third Week**

- Oct. 22: "Punctuation": UEC pp. 251-261.
- Oct. 24: Theme B, impromptu. Bring standard theme paper to class for the writing of this composition.
- Oct. 26: Theme C, a quiz covering UEC pp. 50-54, 190-194, 202-213, 251-261.

**Fourth Week**

- Oct. 29: "The Book Review": UEC pp. 589-606.
- Oct. 31: "Description": UEC pp. 628-634 and such selections (pp. 634-643) as are assigned by your instructor.
- Nov. 2: Theme 1, a description.

**Fifth Week**

- Nov. 5: "Specific Words": UEC pp. 164-166, and "The Imaginative Use of Diction": UEC pp. 167-174. Read also selections in UEC pp. 181-187 or RFC pp. 247-284, as assigned by your instructor.
- Nov. 7: Read descriptive selections in the *Green Caldron* or RFC pp. 284-295, as assigned by your instructor.

- *The Green Caldron* is a magazine in which appear some of the themes written by students in Rhetoric 1 and 2. A faculty committee



makes the final selections from the work chosen by individual instructors. The themes chosen are not all A themes necessarily, but all are good, and each will be noteworthy as an illustration of at least one principle of successful writing. Four issues appear during the year, and to each issue at least one class recitation is devoted. You, therefore, are expected to provide yourself, at the times indicated in the *Calendar*, with copies of the magazine. They may be obtained at the Information Office, 157 Administration Building (W).

Nov. 9: Theme 2, as assigned by your instructor.

#### Sixth Week

Nov. 12: "The Narrative": UEC pp. 646-651 and 658-661.

Nov. 14: "Types of Narration": UEC pp. 661-668 and such narratives (pp. 668-701) as are assigned by your instructor.

Nov. 16: Theme 3, narrative. Before writing, read RFC pp. 299-319 or *Green Caldron* narratives, as assigned by your instructor.

#### Seventh Week

Nov. 19: Anecdotes and sketches in RFC pp. 319-335.

Nov. 21: Theme 4, a narrative which you should be prepared to present orally to the class.

#### Eighth Week

Nov. 26: See assignment for November 21.

Nov. 28: Theme 5, impromptu. Before class read UEC pp. 540-555.

Nov. 30: "The Paragraph": UEC pp. 295-310.

#### Ninth Week

Dec. 3: "The Paragraph": UEC pp. 310-330.

Dec. 5: "Reading": UEC pp. 11-20 and "The Whole Composition: Preliminary Considerations": UEC pp. 331-338.

Dec. 7: "The Outline": UEC pp. 339-348.

#### Tenth Week

Dec. 10: Theme 6, a thesis and sentence outline of an essay in UEC or RFC, as assigned by your instructor.

Dec. 12: The *Green Caldron*, as assigned by your instructor.

Dec. 14: "The Autobiography": UEC pp. 577-588.

#### Eleventh Week

Dec. 17: Theme 7, a short autobiographical sketch.

Dec. 19: "The Process": UEC pp. 385-398.

Jan. 4: Theme 8, impromptu, an explanation of a process. In preparation, read selections in RFC pp. 39-60, as assigned by your instructor.

**Twelfth Week**

- Jan. 7: "Mechanisms and Organization": UEC pp. 398-415.  
 Jan. 9: "Effectiveness": UEC pp. 239-251.  
 Jan. 11: Theme 9, an exposition of a mechanism or organization. Be prepared to read your paper to the class.

**Thirteenth Week**

- Jan. 14: Continued reading of Theme 9.  
 (Note the January 18 and 25 mention of Theme 11. You should decide now what your subject will be and start planning the paper.)  
 Jan. 16: "The Précis": UEC pp. 359-370. (Last date on which late themes may be turned in.)  
 Jan. 18: At the first of this hour you should hand in a sentence outline for Theme 11, a long exposition based on personal experience or observation. Theme 10, impromptu: a précis of a prose composition selected by your instructor.

**Fourteenth Week**

- Jan. 21: Discussion of the writing of examinations.  
 Jan. 23: Final spelling test.  
 Jan. 25: Theme 11, a long exposition based on personal experience or observation.

**Fifteenth Week**

- Jan. 28: Informal talk. Come to class prepared to speak for about three minutes on some subject in which you are interested. The UEC chapter on the informal essay, pp. 607-627, may give you some ideas.  
 Jan. 30: Continuation of preceding assignment.

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**RHETORIC 2 OBJECTIVES AND PLAN**

Rhetoric 2, expecting a higher standard of achievement than that prevailing in Rhetoric 1, is primarily concerned with analytical and argumentative exposition. It is designed to perfect the abilities you developed in Rhetoric 1 and to develop in you the ability (1) to digest and evaluate the ideas of others, (2) to investigate and report the results of such investigation, (3) to test the arguments of others, and (4) to present your own arguments logically and persuasively.

*Weeks 1- 8: Analytical exposition.*

Practice in formal outlining, to enable you to grasp more readily the ideas in the complex exposition you read and to organize your own ideas for effective presentation.



Reading of models, with emphasis on organization and the relationship of ideas.

Guidance in how to use the library and how to plan and document exposition based on library research.

Themes: outlines, analyses, and research papers. One book report.

*Weeks 9-15: Reasoning and persuasion.*

Reading articles in textbooks and current magazines and newspapers, with consideration of the types of reasoning, and fallacies, and the devices of persuasion commonly used.

Argumentative themes. One long research theme. One book report. A test covering assigned readings.

NOTE: A student who receives a semester grade of C or D in Rhetoric 2 is required to take an English qualifying examination at the end of his sophomore year, and, if he fails the examination, to take Rhetoric 5, a remedial course for upperclassmen. A passing grade on the examination or in Rhetoric 5 is required for graduation.

## RHETORIC 2 TEXTBOOKS

The same as for Rhetoric 1.

## RHETORIC 2 CALENDAR

All assignments here made are subject to change by individual instructors. You are advised to give careful attention to and make written note of assignment instructions given in the classroom.

### First Week

Feb. 27: Announcement of texts and assignments. You will be asked to speak informally for one minute on a subject suggested by your instructor.

Mar. 1: Be prepared to discuss "The Outline": UEC pp. 339-348 and the main idea and organization of "Getting a Living": RFC pp. 173-177 or some other essay assigned by your instructor.

### Second Week

Mar. 4: Study the organization of "Benjamin Franklin as Poor Richard": RFC pp. 110-118 or some other essay assigned by your instructor.

Mar. 6: Theme 1, a sentence outline of an essay assigned by your instructor.

Mar. 8: Discussion of Theme 1.

### Third Week

Mar. 11: Study the organization of "The Importance of Dust": UEC pp. 282-292.

Mar. 13: Theme 2, an outline of an essay assigned by your instructor.

Mar. 15: "Definition": UEC pp. 371-385, as assigned by your instructor.

#### Fourth Week

Mar. 18: "Definition": RFC pp. 479-504, as assigned by your instructor.

Mar. 20: Theme 3, an original essay of definition.

Mar. 22: "Analysis": UEC pp. 415-437.

#### Fifth Week

Mar. 25: "Analysis": RFC pp. 504-533.

Mar. 27: Discussion of the *Green Caldron*, as assigned by your instructor.

Mar. 29: Theme 4, an essay of definition or analysis.

#### Sixth Week

Apr. 1: "The Research Paper": UEC pp. 457-469.

Apr. 3: "The Research Paper": UEC pp. 469-484. Discussion of research papers in the current *Green Caldron*.

Apr. 5: Bring to class several topics for Theme 7, a short research paper. Be prepared to discuss the research possibilities with the class.

#### Seventh Week

Apr. 8: Theme 5, an impromptu. Bring theme paper to class for this composition.

Apr. 10: "The Feature Article": UEC pp. 504-518.

Apr. 12: Theme 6, a feature article.

#### Eighth Week

Apr. 15: "The Research Paper": RFC pp. 534-572, as assigned by your instructor.

Apr. 17: Continuation of preceding assignment.

Apr. 19: Theme 7, a short research paper.

#### Ninth Week

Apr. 22: Continued reading and discussion of Theme 7. (During this week or the next you should, in consultation with your instructor, decide on a topic for Theme 12, a long research project to be completed not later than the date set by your instructor.)

Apr. 24: "Expository Argument": UEC pp. 437-449.

Apr. 26: Analyze the arguments in "Work Your Way Through College?": UEC pp. 449-456.

**Tenth Week**

- Apr. 29: "Propaganda Techniques of German Fascism": UEC pp. 488-503.
- May 1: *Green Caldron* selections assigned by your instructor.
- May 3: Theme 8, an argumentative composition.

**Eleventh Week**

- May 6: Analyze the argument in "Should Mexico Be Industrialized?": RFC pp. 662-670.
- May 8: Bring to class an example which you have found in a newspaper or magazine of the use or misuse of emotional appeal in argument.
- May 10: Theme 9, an editorial based on sound reasoning. Be prepared to present your argument to the class orally, without reading.

**Twelfth Week**

- May 13: Continued oral presentation of editorial arguments.
- May 15: Analyze the arguments presented in "The Problem of Erosion": RFC pp. 670-679.
- May 17: Theme 10, as assigned by your instructor. Your instructor will make an assignment for your participation in a panel discussion next week.

**Thirteenth Week**

- May 20: Half of the class will participate in a panel discussion of a controversial subject.
- May 22: Half of the class will participate in a panel discussion of another controversial subject. (Last date on which late themes may be turned in.)
- May 24: Theme 11, a test over the reading selections assigned during the semester.

**Fourteenth Week**

- May 27: Theme 12, a long research paper. Be prepared to read your paper to the class.
- May 29: Continued reading and discussion of Theme 12.
- May 31: Continued reading and discussion of Theme 12.

**Fifteenth Week**

- June 3: Informal talk. Come to class prepared to speak for about three minutes on some subject in which you are interested.
- June 5: Continuation of informal talks.



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